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BEFORE THE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

97 MAR 10 PM 3: 04

DOCKET SECTION

Application of )  
)

AIRLINE MANAGEMENT LIMITED )  
)

for an exemption from )  
49 U.S.C. § 41301 )  
)  
)  
)

Docket OST-97-2143 - 4

March 10, 1997

ANSWER OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
TO APPLICATION OF AIRLINE MANAGEMENT LIMITED  
FOR AN EXEMPTION

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March 10, 1997

7 pgs

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ANSWER OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
TO APPLICATION OF AIRLINE MANAGEMENT LIMITED  
FOR AN EXEMPTION

By application dated February 21, 1997, Airline Management Limited ("AML") seeks U.S.-U.K charter exemption authority in order, inter alia, to operate San Juan-London nonstop service on behalf of British Airways Plc ("British Airways") , which presently offers such service pursuant to a subservice arrangement with another carrier. The Government of Puerto Rico urges the Department to grant the AML application promptly.

Very little needs to be said about the importance of international air service to Puerto Rico. Because of the critical relationship between air service and economic development, the Administration of Governor Pedro Rosselló has made air service expansion a top priority. The Department itself has assisted Puerto Rico's efforts by announcing its "open skies for Puerto Rico" policy.

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Puerto Rico has benefitted greatly from the San Juan-London nonstop service that British Airways has been providing on flights operated by Caledonian Airways. The service provides Puerto Rico with an important European link, which is attractive to leisure and business travelers alike. We understand that British Airways has decided to switch operators to AML. The Department should award AML the requisite exemption authority promptly, so that AML may begin operating on British Airways' behalf at the end of March, as planned.

WHEREFORE, the Government of Puerto Rico urges the Department to grant AML's exemption application promptly.

Respectfully submitted,



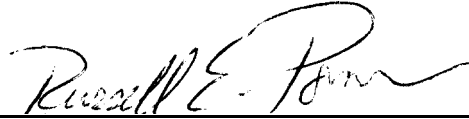
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March 10, 1997

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have, this 10th day of March 1997,  
caused a copy of the foregoing answer to be served on all  
persons listed on the attached service list, by first class mail,  
postage prepaid.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Russell E. Pommer", written in black ink.

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